

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

January 14, 1970

Mr. Joshua Lederberg Washington Post 1515 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lederberg:

Your recent editorial "Atomic Risk Hard to Rate In Terms of Electrocution" is very perceptive. I suppose it is not a coincidence that an editorial on the opposite page "Areas of Important Ignorance" spoke to the same issue.

If you would like to discuss the ideas in your article, I would be pleased to meet with you. There are too few people working on the problem of public risk taking, and I should like to hear more of your views.

Sincerely,

Prof. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University

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from you on this would be wolcome. In how Federal